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JUDICIAL CONTUMACY.

The British theory of government and all of its alleged principles as applied in law to civil power and popular liberty, became null and void in these colonies or States, as soon as they made their Declaration of Independence, or certainly as soon as that Declaration was sustained and made good by our armed revolution, and recognized by all the nations of the earth, including England. The whole system of government and law in England was inverted here. There it was a pyramid, standing on its apex-the King; here, the pyramid was reversed, or restored to its natural position, standing on its base-the people. Divine right, hereditary right, inherent power and special privilege, rampant in England, were utterly abolished here in all things relating to civil and political powers, rights, liberties and privileges; and the right and power of man in government and temporal law were proclaimed supreme.

The Declaration of Independence dis tinctly says that governments (and of course all their branches or departments), "are instituted among men, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOV-ERNED," and the Bill of Rights of Virginla even more distinctly asserts that "ALL POWER IS VESTED IN, AND CONSEQUENTLY DERIVED FROM, THE PEOPLE." But what is all that

"A man convinced against his will. Is of the same opinion still,"

and hence all reliance is placed still by the Tory, or Federalist, or Imperialist in British precedent, authority and immemorial judgment, when our remotest date in fact, reason, law and logic, goes back no further than to July 4th, 1776, and our authority no higher than to the people. Discussing the re-Supreme Court of Appeals in nullifying and refusing to obey an act of legislature restricting and prescribing the power of our courts in dealing arbitrarily with constructive contempts of court, the Norfolk Landmark (of course) warmly applauds the court and its sedition, and says;

"The principles of our government uire that the executive, judicial The principles of our government require that the executive, judicial and legislative functions shall be separate and distinct. The Constitution of Virginia, in the Bill of Rights, provides the same thing, not only once, but twice, for the sake of greater emphasis. Here and there judicial power may have been abused, but the judgment of courts from Ume immenzial has been that from time immemorial has been that the right of punishing for contempt is inherent in the judiclary.

"It may trent the executive branch as it has treated the judicial. The result of all this would be the establishment of the legislative as the supreme and only power of the land. Judiciary and executive would become the mercat non-entities. The Virginia Court of Appeals has taken a stand in defense of the fundamental plan of our national the fundamental plan of our national institutions."

But the principles of our government in separating the legislative and judicial functions did not confer governmental or legislative functions on the courts, nor any right or privilege to assert an "inherent power" superior to lature to eract and regulate all courts, whose powers are expressly limited to those "conferred" by the constitution or the legislature; and as to the constitutional power of the Supreme Court discharging hands by the thousand? to declare an act of legislation null and But, hold! In the midst of all the vold, it, too, is restricted to acts all statistics proving that prosperity has crats.

ready null and vold "by reason of their repuguancy to the constitution of the United States, or the constitution of this State." The act here in question is declared null and void for no such reason, but because it is repugnant to an alleged "inherent power" utterly repugnant to all our constitutions, institutions and principles, while the act itself is in full pursuance of the constitutional power of the legislature to regulate "the judiciary, and to give effect to the guarantees of personal lib-erty" contained in our Federal as well as our State constitution. Trial by jury in all cases affecting life, liberty and property is a high right of the people and the act pronounced null and void by our Supreme Court of Appeals was to protect and enforce that "inherent right" of the people and its constitutional securities.

The court says no to the legislature It refuses to recognize the constitutional duty and power of the legislature to regulate it. See section 1st, Article VI., of the Constitution of Virginia, subjecting the judiciary to the constitution and the legislature. The court revolts, and asserts an independence and a supremacy that have no foundation in our government, constitutions, institutions, or in reason, or good order, or any necessity-for if a in judicial behalf, it is at least a proper defence of personal and popular right and liberty against judicial assumption, usurpation and tyranny. See U. S. Constitution, Amendments V. and VI. See Constitution and Bill of Rights of Virginia Article I., paragraphs 10 and 16.

Any self-respecting American citizen would far prefer to risk hanging before a jury of his equal fellow freemen, than to be subject for one second to the arbitrary power which the Supreme Court of Appeals asserts for its members invested with judicial functions It is a Turkish tyranny, and, as we know, has been exercised in a manner only becoming an "unspeakable Turk;" "turbaned and bearded." But what the Court of Appeals has just done, or attempted, reveals what a despotism, or imperium in Imperio, threatens and defles the State, the legislature, the constitutions, the laws and the people.

the constitution, or the legislature; but, been obliged to confess that she did on the contrary, authorized the legis- fly the land), when we consider that it dollar, and with the trusts everywhere closing up factories and workshops and

been railroaded into the country on a broad gauge, if not by our forced ex-ports abroad, here comes Porter, once Superintendent of the U. S. Census, the great Beegum of Statistics and Statisticians, denying all this, show of railroad prosperity, and all the rosy deductions therefrom;— reciting figures and summing up receipts and expenditures, assets and debts, that quite confounds the boomers of prosperity, and proving that the railroads are really paupers, entitled to parochial or other public relief. We have nothing to do with his motive, or the end he aims at. Sufficient that the Grand-Master-ay, Past Grand-Master of all our Statistics, knocks the figures of prosperity into pie and puts the figures to flight.

But the press-boomers of prosperity still keep up their ceaseless drone, as if they had not heard the Great Porter, nor heard of him. And yet he first published his paper on the condition of our railroads in the N. Y. Sun; and since then it has been reproduced in circular form, and scattered broadcast all over the land. Yet the boomers pretend to have never seen it or heard of it! Will not some friend of truth send them a copy, so that they may at least explain how Porter has been so sadly derailed? It is a curious case of crosspurposes, at all events, and demands some elucidation from some enlightened quarter.

Meanwhile, as even the boomers of prosperity are disagreeing as to where it is precisely, the people are waiting impatiently for that plenty, fairly distributed to all, which is the reasonable demand of labor, production, transportation and necessary exchange upon the monopolizers of whatever prosperity, may be left anywhere. We fear that prosperity is a sneak, and is dodg ing the people.

THE PEOPLE IN MOTION.

The great revolution proclaimed at Chicago in 1896, and which at once rallied to its banner the grand army of six and a half millions of men, is now fully afoot, in motion toward a gigantic and resistless movement, whose momentum is daily increasing, and which will put all opposition under foot in its rush to a magnificent victory of, for

it is German for "old money." The more fighting, the more Demo-

name by capitalists and financiers, as

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THE WORLD'S GREAT ARTISTS.

IV.—MURILLO.

SPAIN'S KING OF RELIGIOUS PAINTERS.

Until recently few painters have enjoyed such continuous and universal popularity as Murillo. A Spaniard of the Spaniards, he was idolized in his own country during his lifetime and ever since, and at the same time there is hardly a part of Europe where he has not gained popular applause. Of late critical voices have been quite loudly raised, especially among artists,

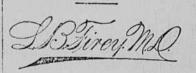


woof of Spanish life and history.

A comparison of Murillo with the earlier religious painters of Spain will explain his transcendant popularity. His predecessors had been either fanatics or formalists, Owing to the long possession of a large part of Spain by the Moors through the middle ages, the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the Jews and the slow national Christian development before the glorious reigns of Fordinand and Isabella, Spain had not until then (c. 1500 A. D.) had uncontrolled power to crush the unbeliever. So that Spain's mediaeval fanaticism, made more bitter by long repression, did not work itself out until the Renaissance period, and its very historic incongruity, its opposition to the spirit of indifference, tolerance of religious liberty to which other countries had attained, made this fanaticism the more bloody, the more dark and intolerant. It was at this very time (six-

habit of turning out a quantity of sacred banners and pictures, hangings for religious processions and festivals, and in performing his share of this work the young Murillo not only gained considerable facility of handling, but prepared himself to earn his bread when his master left Seville for Cadiz in 1639, During the next three years he was without master, and earned precarious livelihood by selling pictures at the Feria market, held on Saturdays, with no particular stimulus to ambition. In 1642, when he was 24 years old, the tide was turned by the return of a former fellow student under Castillo, Pedro de Moya, who had studied with Vandyke in London and had come back full of enthusiasm and prepared to proselytize for his new master not only by force of example, but by means of pictures by Vandyke himself, which he had brought with him. Murillo felt the need of further assistance with this new world of art, and resolved to go to Rome to study. He set to work rapidly turning out pot-bollers, and set aside the money they brought for his journey, and for the orphaned sister he was leaving behind him. He then pluckily made a foot journey to Madrid across the Sierras, arriving penniless and without friends some time in 1643. He had the good fortune to have recourse to his fellow townsman, Velasquez, then in high favor at the court, and through his advice remained in Madrid studying the many masterpleces of the two galleries of the Escurial and Buenrettro, lodging in his patron's house. He spent over two years mastering the styles of such masters as Vandyke, Ribera, Rubers, Rembrandt, the Venetians and Velasquez himself, and then declided to give up his ambitious scheme of foreign trayel and return to his native Seville, where he established himself as an independent artist, At this crisis in his career he received orders for a number of pictures from the Franciscan monks of the city, thus beginning an association that decisively colored his whole life and art, for he became emphatically the representative painter

Note.—This paper will be concluded next Saturday, April 22.



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